Basalt Milkvetch (*Astragalus filipes*)

Zone: 5-9

Color: White to pale yellow

Bloom Time: May to July

Plant Type: Perennial herbaceous

Mature Height: 12-40 inches

Mature Spread: 10-35 inches

Water Use: Extremely low once established

Soil Type: Prefers well-draining, coarse to semi-coarse soils like sandy or loamy soils. Can tolerate a range of soil types, including gravelly, but generally does not thrive in heavy clay soils. It is often found on soils derived from basalt.

Range and Native Habitat: *Astragalus filipes* is native to western North America from British Columbia to California to Utah, where it grows in many types of habitat, especially dry areas.

Suggested Maintenance: Well-drained soils are key for this *Astragalus*, minimal maintenance is needed, cut back to the crown in late spring.

Other: Osmia bee species particularly benefit from the earlier bloom time of *Astragalus filipes*, and several beetle and weevil species use this plant as larval food.

Distribution Map

Wildlife Supported

Landscaping Information

Sun
Full sun

Water Needs
Very low

Summer Irrigation
Max 1x / month once established

Soil Drainage
Fast

Propagation
By seed, 2-3 mos stratification, scarification recommended